

REMARKS

The specification of the subject U.S. patent application, as filed, as constituted by the verified translation of PCT/EP2004/053457, has been cancelled in favor of the concurrently submitted Substitute Specification. A suitable Abstract of the Disclosure has been added. These changes and additions do not constitute any new matter.

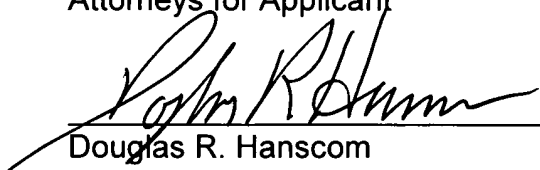
Original claims 1-67 and Article 34 claims 1-65 have been cancelled. New claims 68-129 have been added. New claims 68-129 are essentially the same, in scope, as the claims that are currently pending in the PCT application. They have been rewritten in a form more in accordance with U.S. practice and eliminating multiple dependencies.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment into the subject U.S. patent application, prior to the calculation of the filing fee, and prior to an examination of the application on the merits, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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